

ATTENTION ALL NDE PORTAL USERS:

Please log onto your portal accounts and go to the “My Profile” tab and check to make sure your contact information (especially the email address) is up to date. It is very important to keep this information updated as the Department of Education uses the email address that is in the users’ Portal account to send vital information. Thank you!!



Premier of the Nebraska Education Profile (formerly the State of the Schools Report)

The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) includes a transition cycle and contains federal and state reporting requirements specifically related to student performance. Decisions regarding the use of information, historically provided on the State of the Schools Report, are changing in the coming years. To accommodate the transition, and allow the Nebraska Department of Education (NDE) to determine specific reporting interests of the public in the future, an interactive dashboard of 2015-16 state NeSA results and related data points will launch later this year.

The release dates and timing of The Nebraska Education Profile are as follows:

November 18 at 10 a.m.

- Release of the first version of the Nebraska Education Profile and related data downloads is available to the public on the NDE website. Districts will have a chance to view the site prior to the public release.

December 9 at 10:00 a.m.

- Release of additional available data on the Nebraska Education Profile, including graduation rates, dropout rates, and mobility rates.



Nebraska’s Innovation Grant Program Accepting Grant Applications

Contact: NDE Help Desk at [888-285-0556](tel:888-285-0556) or nde.helpdesk@nebraska.gov

Beginning November 4 through December 14, the Nebraska Department of Education will accept *Grant Applications* for proposed projects through Nebraska’s *Innovation Grant Program*. This competitive grant program provides funding opportunities to *Local Education Agencies (LEAs)* to support the development, expansion and investment in innovative best practices that improve:

- Education outcomes for early childhood, elementary, middle school or high school students;
- Transitions between any successive stages of education; or
- Transitions between education and the work force.

There is currently approximately \$7.8 million available over the next three years for competitive grants through this program. Eligible applicants include a school district, Educational Service Unit (ESU), or combination of entities with at least one school district or ESU. **Applicants are invited to submit a *Grant Application*, accompanied by a *Project Evaluation Plan*, no later than December 14.**

The State Board of Education will award grants to projects deemed sufficiently innovative, with a high chance of success and statewide significance. Grant recipients are required to generate evidence of the project’s effectiveness through a rigorous independent evaluation, culminating in the identification, validation, replication

and potential “scale-up” of innovative best practices. Funded projects must have the potential to be both replicable and scalable, with priority consideration given to those:

- Serving “High Needs” students;
- Serving students attending “Needs Improvement” schools;
- Focusing on the tenets of Nebraska’s *AQuESTT System*; or
- Leveraging technology to support instructional practice and professional development.

Applicants may also choose to seek an *Optional Competitive Preference Priority of Matching Funds*.

Additional information about Nebraska’s *Innovation Grant Program* is available on the NDE website:

https://www.education.ne.gov/dataservices/innovation_grant.html



Medicaid In Public Schools (MIPS) Now Open In the Consolidated Data Collection (CDC)

Contact: For questions on the MIPS Claims and its processes, please contact Jennifer Irvine at DHHS -

Jennifer.irvine@nebraska.gov

For IT questions regarding the portal, please contact the NDE Helpdesk (888-285-0556 or

nde.helpdesk@nebraska.gov)

Public Schools only

The Medicaid In Public Schools (MIPS) collection is now open in the NDE Portal under the Data Collections tab and in the Consolidated Data Collection (CDC) for submitting your MIPS claims. Please remember that you need to get an activation code from your District Administrator in order to get access to the collection MIPS in the CDC. The “All” or “Approver” UserType codes will not give access to the MIPS. **You must have the MIPS UserType activation code added to your CDC collection.**



Special Education Monthly/Year-End Snapshot

Contact: NDE Helpdesk (888-285-0556 or nde.helpdesk@nebraska.gov)

Public and State Operated Schools only

This is a reminder for School Districts uploading their Monthly/Year-End Special Education Snapshot, please remember to upload a complete file of all special education students in the first upload to 2016-2017 Year End Collection. The Monthly/Year-End Special Education Snapshot is the source of special education data to be compared with data provided by the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) that occurs on the 24th day of each month for the purpose of creating the Medicaid in Public Schools (MIPS) claim forms/lists. Participation in MIPS is required by Nebraska Revised Statute 43-2511.

When the district uploads its first Special Education Snapshot for 2016-2017 Year End, it must be a complete file and include all special education students. After the initial upload for year-end, individual records can be uploaded in the monthly updates. A monthly Special Education Snapshot must be submitted when there are new students in special education and whenever there are changes in Physical Therapy, Occupational Therapy or Speech Therapy services.



Audit Submission – OPENED – October 3 – DUE: November 5 (Statute) – November 7

Contact: Bill Biven (402-471-0526 or bill.biven@nebraska.gov) or Janice Eret (402-471-2248 or

janice.eret@nebraska.gov)

Audits must be submitted to NDE through the Annual Financial Report 2015/16 Collection through the District's Portal account. E-mails and mailings will not be accepted.

Instructions can be located at:

<https://www.education.ne.gov/FOS/SchoolFinance/AFR/Downloads/1516/AFRAuditInstructions.pdf>

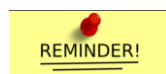


MOE Eligibility Application – DUE DATE: November 15

Contact: Pete Biaggio (402-471-4308 or pete.biaggio@nebraska.gov)

Collection completed by Public

The purpose of this application is to provide IDEA special education Maintenance of Effort (MOE) information to establish school eligibility for receipt of IDEA current year funds.



ESEA/NCLB Consolidated Application and Title I Accountability Applications

Contact: Diane Stuehmer 402-471-1740 or diane.stuehmer@nebraska.gov or the NDE Reviewer for your District

The 2016-17 **ESEA/NCLB Consolidated Application** is now available. Completed applications must be submitted by **November 30, 2016**.

The 2016-17 **Title I Accountability Application** is now available. Completed applications must be submitted by **November 30, 2016**. The Title I Accountability Application provides additional Title I funds for Districts having one or more schools identified for Title I Needs Improvement. Determinations were based on AYP data from the 2014-15 school year. The Needs Improvement year is “frozen” at the same level it was for the 2015-16 school year. Since NDE did not have to wait for AYP Determinations, we were able to open this application at the same time as the ESEA/NCLB Consolidated Application, rather than waiting until January. These funds should address making improvements in the subject area that caused the Needs Improvement identification. For example, if the school was identified in the area of Reading, the Accountability funds need to address improving Reading skills.

Typically the Accountability funds are minimal and easily forgotten about. The NDE Federal Programs Team encourages districts to use these funds early in the year so they are not overlooked. When all of the accountability funds have been spent, the District can close out the financial side of the application.

REMINDER: Several Districts have not yet requested a Final Request for Reimbursement for Title I Accountability funds for the 2014-15 and 2015-16 School Years. **Funds from 2014-15 had to be expended by September 30, 2016 and Final Requests are Due no later than November 15, 2016.** 2015-16 Accountability funds may be expended through September 30, 2017; but, again, Districts are encouraged to spend them sooner, rather than later.

Both of these applications are in the NDE Grants Management System (GMS),

<https://nde.mtwgms.org/NDEGMSWebv02/logon.aspx>



The following collections are currently open in the Consolidated Data Collection (CDC)

Contact: NDE Helpdesk (888-285-0556 or nde.helpdesk@nebraska.gov)

Please refer to the CDC Calendar which is located on the NSSRS Resources page at

<http://www.education.ne.gov/nssrs/Resources.html#Instructions> and also review the instructions available in each of the CDC collections for further details about each collection.

Teacher Vacancy Survey – OPEN September 1

The Nebraska Department of Education developed the Teacher Vacancy Survey to collect data relating to teacher supply in Nebraska. The data is gathered with the purpose of determining the content areas for which teacher supply does not meet demand and which methods are commonly used by school districts to meet staffing needs.

Due Date: November 10 (Audit Window Close Date: December 10)

Collection completed by Public, Nonpublic, and ESU's

For more information, contact Sharon Katt – sharon.katt@nebraska (402) 471-2405

****Technology Plan – OPEN September 1**

Collects school and technology related inventories.

****Due Date: NOVEMBER 30 (Audit Window Close Date: February 15) PLEASE NOTE CHANGE IN DUE DATE**

Collection completed by Public and ESUs; Non-public optional

For more information, contact SuAnn Witt – suann.witt@nebraska.gov (402) 471-2085

Title I Annual Caseload Count of Children In Local Institutions For Neglected or Delinquent

OPEN September 1

The purpose of this annual caseload count is to provide the State Educational Agency with current information on the location and number of children living in institutions for neglected or delinquent children, or in local correctional institutions. The information collected will be used in the Title I formula for computing allocations for local educational agencies.

Due Date: December 5 (Audit Window Close Date: January 5, 2017)

Collection completed by Public

For more information, contact Pat Frost – pat.frost@nebraska.gov (402) 471-2478



Monitoring Graduation Cohorts

Contact: NDE Helpdesk (888-285-0556 or nde.helpdesk@nebraska.gov)

NDE recommends someone from your district should monitor the Graduation Cohorts, past and present at least once or twice a year. This can be done using the Graduation Cohort Analysis tool in NSSRS Validation under System Lookups. In Fall 2016 you should be monitoring these cohorts:

2013 (7th year), 2014 (6th year), 2015 (5th year), 2016 (4th year), 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020 (first time 9th graders).

The cohort graduation rate is built over four years so monitoring it annually is very important. The data is used for federal reporting and state accountability.



New Validation Error 580

Contact: NDE Helpdesk (888-285-0556 or nde.helpdesk@nebraska.gov)

Error 580 will be turned on Monday 10/24. This error is for students that are enrolled in Special Purpose Schools that listed the Special Purpose School number as their district of residence in error. To fix, update the Student template with the appropriate District of Residence for a Public School district.

HOW TO CONTACT THE NDE HELPDESK

There are three ways to contact the NDE Helpdesk with questions.

All three ways get to the same place, so please only use one of the following options.

If you send more than one request this may delay our response as we coordinate all requests.

1. Submit a "Helpdesk Request" from your portal account. After logging into the NDE Portal, it is available in the upper right corner of the Collection Announcement page. This will be the fastest way to get your request to the NDE Helpdesk.

OR

2. Email: nde.helpdesk@nebraska.gov

OR

3. Call Toll Free: 888-285-0556 – **This is a Voicemail line ONLY.**

Please leave your full name, organization, call back number and a brief description of your question.

ALSO: If you have contacted the NDE Program Staff person, please do not also contact the Helpdesk. Multiple contacts will delay the response.

THANK YOU!

NDE Bulletins: Past and Present:

Current and past NDE Bulletins can be found at <http://www.education.ne.gov/ndebulletins/index.html>. We will also continue to send the bulletin out via e-mail.

Denise Schuyler

Data, Research, and Evaluation - NDE IT Helpdesk Specialist



Helpdesk: 888-285-0556 – nde.helpdesk@nebraska.gov

Email: denise.schuyler@nebraska.gov